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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/010,293	11/12/2001	Daniel H. Walker	ITT-485-A	5056

7590

03/31/2003

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EXAMINER

FIGUEROA, FELIX O

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application

10/010,293

Applicant(s)

WALKER ET AL.

Examiner

Felix O. Figueroa

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 February 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-13,15,16 and 19-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,4-13,15,16 and 19-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 11/12/01 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 03 February 2003 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

The drawings are objected to because they have elements shown in cross section which are not properly crosshatched. Conductive members shown in cross section should be properly crosshatched. See for example the connector housing 12. The conventional crosshatch for conductive members shown in cross section follows.



In response to applicant's arguments regarding the crosshatch of the conductive housing 12, please note that the crosshatch provided is improper since it does not reflect any conductive property. It is noted that the specification discloses two options: a conductive metal or a plastic filled with conductive particles. It is suggested to the applicant that such housing as form by either or both of this materials. The commonly used crosshatching for a plastic filled with conductive particles is shown below.



Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 4-6, 10-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hand (US 5,648,639).

Hand discloses a fluid quick connector comprising: a connector housing (5) configured to mate with a male endform (1); and an electrically conductive contact member (16) mounted in the housing and contacting the male endform to electrically connect the male endform and the quick connector housing. Hand also discloses the contact member comprising a first portion (17) mountable in the quick connector housing bore in contact with the quick connector housing; and at least one arm (18) extending from the first portion for contact with the male endform.

Hand shows the arm extendable through an open end of the bore in the male endform in contact with a surface of the male endform. Please note that "extendable" only requires the ability to so perform, and that the arm of Hand can be bend to extend into the bore.

Hand also shows the arm having a bent end (19). Hand teaches the arm and the bent end comprising a beam portion (base of 18) extending from the first portion of the contact member, a back taper surface (18) extending angularly from the beam portion; and a tip end (19) extending angularly from an edge at one end of the back taper surface and defining a lead-in surface; the back taper surface extends at an obtuse included angle with respect to the beam; and the tip end extends at an obtuse included angle from the back taper surface.

Hand also teaches the first portion of the contact member comprises: an annular ring mountable in the bore in the quick connector housing, the arm extending from the annular ring; the arm having a bent end; the at least one finger extending angularly from the annular ring.

Claims 1 and 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Johnson (US 4,657,336).

Johnson discloses a connector comprising: a connector housing (68) configured to mate with a male endform; and an electrically conductive contact member (40) mounted in the housing and contacting the male endform to electrically connect the male endform and the connector housing. Johnson also discloses a first portion (42) mountable in the connector housing bore in contact with the connector housing; and at least one arm (48) extending from the first portion. Johnson shows the arm extendable through an open end of the bore in the male endform in contact with a surface of the male endform. Johnson also shows the first portion comprising a tubular body mountable in the bore in the quick connector housing, the arm extending from one end of the tubular body; the tubular body being longitudinally spitted to form spaced edges allowing compression of the tubular body for press-fit mounting of the tubular body in the bore in the quick connector housing; and the tubular body further comprising another end oppositely formed from the one end of the body, a lead-in edge formed on the another end.

Claims 16 and 19-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Johnson.

Johnson discloses an electrical contact comprising: an electrically conductive contact member (40) comprising a first portion (42), and an arm (48) extending from the first portion. Johnson also discloses the arm having a bent end (not label); the arm comprising a beam portion (base of 48) extending from the first portion, a back taper surface extending angularly from the beam portion, and a tip end (56) extending

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angularly form an edge at one end of the back taper surface and defining a lead-in surface. Johnson shows the contact member comprising a tubular body being longitudinally split to form spaced edges. Johnson also shows the contact member comprising an annular ring; and at least one finger extending angularly from the annular ring.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 02/03/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's arguments that Hand does not disclose "the contact member having at least one arm which is extendable through the open end of a bore in a male endform for contact with a surface of the male endform" and that "the piercing hooks and the arm of Hand do not extend inward", please note that, as discussed before in the body of the rejection, the claims does not positively requires that the arm of the contact member extends inward, but rather that it would have the capability to do so. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use (i.e. extend inward), then it meets the claim See *In re Casey*, 152 USPQ 235 (CCPA 1967) and *In re Otto*, 136 USPQ 458, 459 (CCPA 1963).

In response to applicant's arguments regarding claim 8, see Figure 3, which shows the longitudinal split forming spaced edges.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

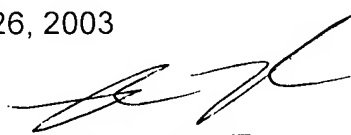
A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Felix O. Figueroa whose telephone number is (703) 308-0097. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

ffr
March 26, 2003



RENEE LUEBKE
PRIMARY EXAMINER